

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4013
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2002
VIOLATIVE CONSTRUCTION WORK IN TAJ MAHAL
A.K. PREMAJAM;RAM CHANDRA DOME

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a)whether ASI has undertaken any construction work for building a tourist reception centre in the forecourt of the East Gate ofTaj Mahal;
- (b)if so, whether such alterations would change the basic design of Taj;
- (c)whether this construction is in violation of Monument Protection Act as also the Supreme Court judgement; and
- (d)if so, the response of the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

- (a)No, Sir. However under a programme of the National Culture Fund, a Visitor Facilitation Centre is proposed to be located within the existing arcades of the courtyard adjacent to the Eastern Gate.
- (b)No, Sir.
- (c)No, Sir.
- (d)Question does not arise.